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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kazuyuki SAKAKIBARA ) Group Art Unit:  
Serial No: ) Examiner:  
Filed: ) Attorney Docket No: 6977-78618  
For: BATTERY CHARGER AND ) (7039 U)  
BATTERY CHARGING METHOD )

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The Examiner's attention is invited to the co-pending U.S. Patent applications of applicant Kazuyuki SAKAKIBARA and the assignee, Makita Corporation, entitled "Battery Charger", Serial No. 09/327,562 filed June 8, 1999 and Serial No. 09/347,338 filed July 2, 1999.

The patents listed below were located during a prior patent search of the subject application or were cited as references in the assignee's foreign patents and patent applications. The patents and publications listed below generally relate to subject matter of the invention, but do not fairly teach or suggest the claimed Battery Charger And Battery Charging Method. Copies of the listed patents are enclosed for consideration by the Examiner.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 23-0920.

1. Le Van Suu, U.S. Patent No. 5,739,673, granted April 14, 1998, pertains to a Control Device For The Charging Of At Least One Battery.
2. Shiojima, U.S. Patent No. 5,497,068, granted March 5, 1996, pertains to a Secondary Battery Charging Circuit.
3. Ito, U.S. Patent No. 5,886,527, granted March 23, 1999, pertains to a Method And Device For Monitoring Deterioration Of Battery.

4. Kadouchi et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,652,500, granted July 29, 1997, pertains to a Charge Control Apparatus For Battery Pack Which Uses Rate Of Change Of Battery Temperature Adjusted By Correction Factor.
5. Grabon, U.S. Patent No. 5,912,547, granted June 15, 1999, pertains to a Battery Charging Method And Apparatus With Thermal Mass Equalization.
6. Abstract of Japanese Application No. 04011138, filed January 24, 1992, Japanese Publication No. 05244729 A, published September 21, 1993, of Sanyo Electric Co Ltd Tottori Sanyo Electric Co Ltd, pertains to a Method Of Charging Battery.
7. Abstract of Japanese Application No. 08164597, filed June 25, 1996, Japanese Publication No. 10014125 A, published January 16, 1998, of Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd, pertains to a Method And Device For Charging Nickel-Cadonium or Nickel-Hydrogen Secondary Battery.
8. Abstract of Japanese Application No. 04293693, filed October 7, 1992, Publication No. 06121468 A, issued April 28, 1994, of Tamura Seisakusho Co Ltd, pertains to a Method For Charging Secondary Battery.
9. Derwent Abstract of German Application No. DE 4200693, published May 6, 1993, of Robert Bosch GMBH (corresponding to EP 621 990 and JP 93 5-512057).
10. Derwent Abstract of European Application No. EP 0621 990 B1, published June 12, 1996, of Robert Bosch GMBH.

Respectfully submitted,



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